

The Yost Park Quest Through the Years



**Yost Memorial Park
96th Ave W. & Bowdoin Way,
Edmonds, WA**

City of Edmonds
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
425-771-0230
www.ci.edmonds.wa.us

Instructions

In this quest you will use a map and follow a series of clues to reach a hidden box. The box contains a small guest book, a rubber stamp & ink pad, and other information. When you find it, please sign the guest book and make an imprint of the rubber stamp on the back of this quest booklet to validate your success! Then re-hide the box for the next person to find. The location of the clues and box remain a secret so others can share the fun.

Questing is best done in small groups. If you have a large group, consider breaking up into smaller groups and staggering your departure times. Collect your clues with stealth, so everyone can share in the discovery. You will not need a compass, but you should consult the map often during your quest. Read the directions carefully, and think about their meaning! Making a few mistakes is part of questing. The trick is to catch your mistake before you go too far on the wrong path.

If you can't figure out a clue, you can skip it and still likely find the box without a problem. If you think there are two possibilities for a clue answer, make a note of both and then at the end you can decide which one fits best. Please report any problems you discover regarding clues or anything that is missing from the box to the box monitor. And please give us your impressions and feedback in the guest book.

Box Monitor: Sally Lider, Edmonds Parks & Recreation
425-771-0227, lider@ci.edmonds.wa.us

Difficulty Rating of this quest: on a scale of 1 (Easy) to 5 (Extreme):

2 – Average. *Clues are fairly direct, and the average quester should be able to find the box without too much trouble.*

Terrain Rating of this quest:

on a scale of 1 (Handicapped accessible) to 5 (Extremely difficult):

3 – Not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers. Some steep elevation changes and a variety of surfaces. *Best for older children and adults.*

Yost Park Quest Through the Years

Yost Park through the years-
A quest of nature, people and pioneers.
If your search along the trails is sincere,
You'll find their history is written and reflected here.

This Yost Park quest
has its ups and downs.
To watch your step is best,
lest you fall and bounce!

At the park entrance sign your quest will begin,
where you'll see the second letter in this park's name.
Find the clue eleven square and place it within.
Would you like to know from where this name came?

A man named Allen had the last name of Yost.
(It rhymes not with lost, but instead with most.)
In 1902 Allen Yost and his family
established the Edmonds Spring Water Company.

There stands a yellow gate across the entry road.
Park hours are stated there upon a sign.
Take the second letter from a nightfall word
and use it to fulfill clue number nine.

Brain Teaser # 1

Do you know a word that describes
an animal that is most active at
dawn and dusk?

*The answer is in the quest box at the
end of your journey.*

Walk the paved path that leads toward the pool.
Many tall evergreens shade this trail.
Douglas fir and Western redcedar will keep you cool.
But there are some plants here that we'd like to curtail.

See the stump on your left that's covered with ivy?
It may look pretty, but here it's a weed.
It's called an "invasive" because it grows so quickly.
If you have it in your yard, don't let it spread its seed!

Go ahead until you cross
the first crosswalk that you see.
On your left there's more than moss
near the bottom of a tree.

The rock at the base of the tree
has too many holes for me!
It's not from here. That I know.
It came from a distant volcano.

At one time that rock
was a hot liquid mix.
Its fourth letter will unlock
the mystery of clue number six.

Brain Teaser # 2

What is English Ivy, and
why is it a problem?

*The answer is in the
quest box at the end of
your journey.*

Over another crosswalk you will tramp.
On your left you'll see some racks for bikes.
If you go right and down the ramp,
you'll come to a playground for little tykes.

Walk straight along the border
of a BIG box of wood.
When you come to the corner
turn right, if you would.

Look to your left,
in the magnolia's shade.
A memorial plaque
is there displayed.

Pause here and read the simple dedication,
written to remember a special someone.
The second letter of the name he was given
belongs in the spaces for clue number seven.

Up and to your right there lies a big, square court,
where a game is played with rackets and a ball.
Take the third letter of this well-known sport,
and use it for number three clues (three in all).

Walk toward the court, away from the playground,
and look for a nice place where you might rest.
On the left side, halfway around,
a bench is the next stop for you on this quest.

Before you get comfortable,
look for a date.
The month's first letter
is clue number eight.

Behind the bench begins a trail.
Keep right and climb into the forest.
The Crows Nest Loop has no handrail,
So take it slow, and you'll be safest.

Yost Park is home to many animals –
Birds, frogs, slugs, spiders and beetles.
If you are quiet, you may see
a squirrel, a raccoon or even a coyote!

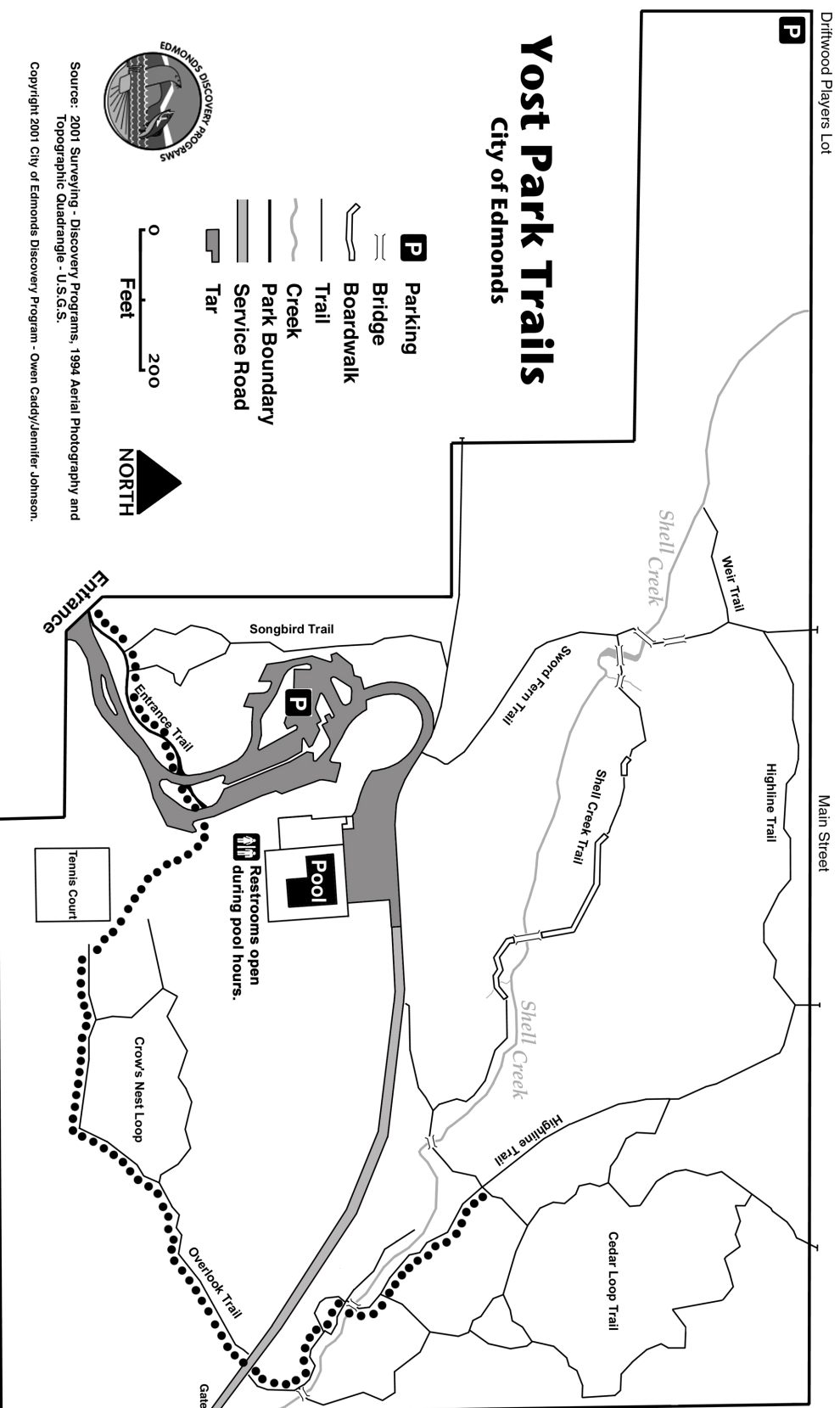
Clue number four is in an animal dropping.
The second letter of a word that rhymes with "chat".
Put the letter in the box and continue walking,
but don't expect to see a muskrat or a wombat.

Brain Teaser # 3

Why wouldn't you see a muskrat or wombat at this location?

The answer is in the quest box at the end of your journey.

USE THIS MAP OF YOST PARK TO HELP YOU SOLVE THE QUEST !



Source: 2001 Surveying - Discovery Programs, 1994 Aerial Photography and
 Topographic Quadrangle - U.S.G.S.
 Copyright 2001 City of Edmonds Discovery Program - Owen Caddy/Jennifer Johnson.

Keep climbing till you come to a fork in the trail.
Now look at the Yost Park map while you dally.
Where Crows Nest Loop meets the Overlook Trail,
is a fine place to pause and look down on the valley.

You'll see there's a trail on the opposite side,
with a name that refers to its altitude.
The first letter of the trail's name will provide
clue number five, which you have pursued.

There's a road down below.
You'll get there pretty quickly.
Please take care and go slow,
For this slope is rather slippery.

Cross the road, turn right and then
find the sign that holds clue number ten.
You'll only have to go about 30 feet,
and this directional sign you'll meet.

The fourth letter is the one that you seek.
You can write it in the box with ease.
Now go down the dirt track to the creek,
But don't cross the bridge if you please.

Keep left on the trail by the stream bed.
It tells the story of a watershed.
A deep channel that's usually dry
might make you want to ask why.

Rain on the pavement can't soak into the ground.
It gathers speed as it runs off, that's for certain.
When it gets to the stream, where it's finally bound,
The force of its flow carves a canyon!

Northwest you'll proceed,
on the Shell Creek Trail.
Some advice you should heed,
so your quest will not fail:

Cross the stream to the other shore,
when a path of wood you view.
The first letter of that "floor"
is also the number one clue.

Follow the trail that leads downstream.
To go left when you meet the fork is your scheme.
A little farther on the left a barrier will block
your way to help nature recover in the park.

Look up now and then, towards the sky.
Many trees are leaning this way and that.
Red alders when 90 years old will die,
Of heartrot and soon they will all fall flat!

Red alder is known as a "pioneer plant"
because it sprouts after fires or logging.
It grows in soils where other plants can't.
And makes nutrients to help the next trees growing.

Brain Teaser # 4

What is the most common type of berry that
grows here? It's 3-part leaf looks like a butterfly
when you hide the bottom section.

*The answer is in the quest box at the end of your
journey.*

Proceed till you see, there on your right
A big, rotting stump from a Western redcedar.
This centuries-old tree reached a great height
before Edmonds pioneers used it for lumber.

Now, look to the other
side of the track.
Find the second barrier
and read the words on the plaque.

Adam and his friends worked on this route.
He reached the highest rank of Boy Scout.
Clue number two is the first letter of this word
that happens to be the name of a bird.

Now that you've guessed
all the clues on this quest.
Walk another 30 feet
to where 4 trails meet.

Under the seat,
if you'll just take a peek,
You'll find and complete
that which you seek.

Your quest is done,
but there's much more to see
You can stay and have fun,
or be out in a hurry.

Turn left, go downhill
and across another bridge.
Left again, up the hill
is a walk of shorter mileage.

Or, turn right if you want
and take a nice, long jaunt.
Along the Shell Creek and
Sword Fern Trails through the woodland.

Along the way,
you can count the large stumps.
As they decay,
they look more like lumps.

These once giant trees
would make good canoes.
Now sprouting berries
their nutrients use.

If you look closely toward
some stumps you'll see
the marks of a "springboard"
used in sawing the tree.

There's more to discover
on the trails of Yost Park.
About people and nature,
if your interest is sparked.

We hope you'll come again
to Yost Park through the years.
Whenever you have a yen,
to explore new frontiers!

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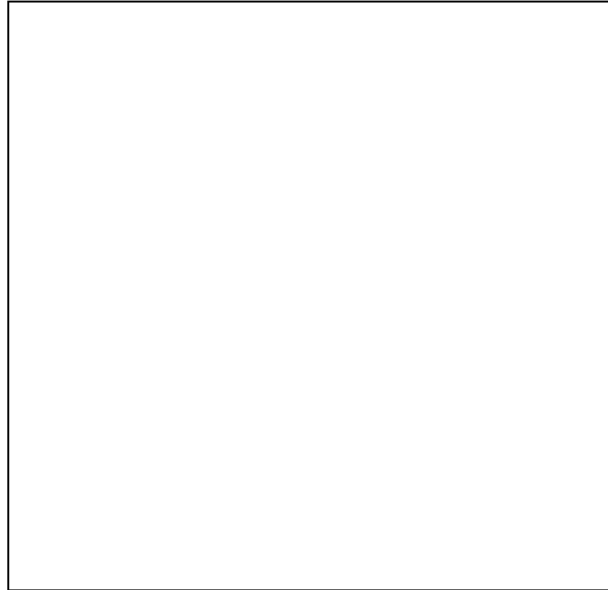
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